

REMARKS

Claims 1-3 and 5-8 are pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate subject matter from claim 4, which is canceled without prejudice. Claim 7 has been amended to correct claim dependency. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed.

The title was objected to for not being descriptive. A new title has been provided in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion. Approval of the new title is respectfully requested.

Applicants' claimed invention is directed to a data storage method, which is applicable to a computer device having a real-time clock (RTC) unit (see preamble of claim 1). The Applicants' claimed method includes steps of creating a folder, storing data from a **memory card** in a memory unit of the computer device upon receiving an inputted request for storing the data, and determining if the computer device has enough capacity for data storage, where the folder has a name determined according to an identification value and a time value obtained by reading the RTC unit (see, e.g., steps (1) and (5) of claim 1). In other words, the data stored in the memory unit of the computer device are received from a **memory card**, which is external to the computer device. As claimed, a folder is not created until after the inputted request is received for storing the data.

Claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Japanese Publication 11-164234 to "Makishima" in view of U.S. Patent 5,583,715 to Miura. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The proposed combination of Makishima in view of Miura does not teach or suggest a data storage method including steps of: receiving data from a **memory card**, and creating a folder and storing the data from the memory card in a memory unit of a computer device after receiving "an inputted request for storing the data" (see claim 1).

Referring to paragraphs 0032 to 0033 of the English-language translation of Makishima, the Makishima reference discloses a digital camera including a photographing means 1, a recording medium 2, a time management tool 3, a directory creation means 4, a file preservation means 5, and a detection means 6, where the photographing means 1 is used "to acquire the image data."

In Makishima, the detection means 6 detects the signal which it generates when a memory card is inserted in a slot (see paragraph 0036), and then "commands directory creation to the directory creation means 4," where "the directory creation means 4 acquires the information about time from the time management tool 3, and determines the name of a directory ... [and] makes a new directory on a recording medium 2" (paragraph 0037).

As described in Makishima, the digital camera receives image data from the photographing means 1, which is part of the digital camera itself, not from an external memory card as claimed.

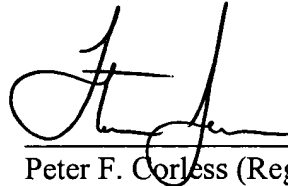
Moreover, in Makishima, the detection means 6 instructs the directory creation means 4 to determine the name of a directory upon detecting the presence of a memory card. In contrast, according to the Applicants' claimed invention, "an inputted request for storing the data" must be received before a folder is named.

The Miura reference fails to remedy the deficiencies of Makishima. The Miura reference is directed to an image data communication apparatus which stores image data on a floppy disc (see column 1, lines 10-15). However, there is no teaching or suggestion of the Applicants' claimed steps of: receiving data from a **memory card**, and creating a folder and storing the data from the memory card in a memory unit of a computer device after receiving "an inputted request for storing the data" (see claim 1).

For at least the reasons discussed above, the proposed combination of Makishima in view of Miura does not teach or suggest the Applicants' claimed invention.

It is believed that the claims are in condition for immediate allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Peter F. Corless", written over a horizontal line.

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